

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BRUFF**  
County : **LIMERICK**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-06-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	36	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	23
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>224</b>

## **Bruff, County Limerick**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for the completed questionnaire, 5-year work plan and descriptive map which was very helpful in identifying various places around the town. The level of co-operation between the committee, statutory bodies, local industry and the community in general is very praiseworthy and provides positive benefits for Bruff. The work programme has set out achievable objectives since its inception in 1997 and one can see improvements over the next few years.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The standard in this category was quite good considering that the town still has a problem with dereliction. There are two old establishments at the Kilmallock end of the town that are in very bad condition in stark contrast to the two new pubs across the way "Treacys" and "Dave Clarkes". Both Banks are impressive buildings and have been maintained to the highest standard as has the new Garda Barracks. The School and Convent deserve mention for the manner in which they are presented. Unfortunately, the impressive Church Of Ireland building and its adjoining grounds are falling further into a state of dereliction. Hopefully efforts to redress this situation will succeed. The Old Bakehouse is a very impressive building as is Quiltys even though it does need a little refurbishment and tidying. The hall which played host to Sean O'Riada's first performance is also in need of refurbishment. The Courthouse and immediate area was extremely well kept as was the RC Church and graveyard.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There was evidence of a lot of ongoing work in this category and all those involved are to be commended. The Riverside park on the Morning Star was in splendid condition with a mix of mature trees, shrubs and colourful rose beds with the pergola as star attraction. The planting arrangements near the Courthouse and the shrub beds at the factory on the Knockainey/Hospital road also deserve mention.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

As was stated in last year's report the value of the river as a haven not alone for wildfowl but also wildflowers and grasses cannot be understated. Bruff is blessed to have such a natural wildlife habitat and it should be managed in an appropriate manner. Information boards would be advantageous for the visitor or wildlife enthusiasts.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

It is good to see that a number of litter control initiatives have been put in place. There was a little too much litter to be seen on adjudication day especially in the centre of the town. Allowance has to be made for the fact that it was a busy Friday evening.

## **TIDINESS**

The standard in this category was quite good except for a little fly posting. Weed control was very good. There were a few abandoned items including a dilapidated horsebox on the Croom road. Keep up the effort.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The Courthouse area has a number of very attractive houses with well-tended gardens. Sycamore Drive was well presented, as was the terrace of houses on the Limerick Road exit. As mentioned in last year's report the terrace of houses opposite the River Park are very impressive but they need to be painted at least.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach roads from both Limerick and Kilmallock were very impressive with name signs clean and verges trimmed. The mature trees lining the Kilmallock Road have matured dramatically over the last two years. The Athlacca and Croom Roads are in good condition except for the previously mentioned abandoned horsebox. The Hospital Road has a number of very fine houses and the GAA Club deserves praise for the manner in which the grounds are maintained.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The town is making progress and the Committee is to be congratulated for addressing and solving problem issues. The overall impression of Bruff is a town that has a number of very impressive features, including its excellently maintained riverside park and some very handsome buildings. I am looking forward to further progress in the competition in the years ahead.

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (10/08/99)**

The busy town of Bruff looked well on a sunny August adjudication day. The adjudicator was disappointed to note that the Church of Ireland in its prominent location at the bottom of the main street still looked quite neglected and its grounds were quite overgrown. It is a most unique building and would benefit greatly by being restored to its former glory. Quilty's is a marvellous traditional front but appeared quite flaky on adjudication day. Most of the buildings of the town

however looked quite fresh such as the Old Bakehouse Restaurant, O'Faolains and Keatings Bar. The directional signs at the junction at the centre of the village appeared to be quite grubby. The perspex to the telephone boxes was extremely badly stained. The imposing building behind these also appears to be quite neglected. The new Garda station opposite was admired. The monument and stone catholic church and grounds were well maintained. Some boundary walls to the houses at the top of the village beyond the latter appeared to be quite grubby. Weeds were apparent to kerbsides on the Limerick side of the town and as mentioned by the first adjudicator the hall appeared to be quite flaky. Despite these problem areas the town generally looked well on second adjudication day.